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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/341,379	07/09/1999	VALERIO AISA	MERL0060US	5053

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31  
EXAMINER

BECKER, DREW E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1761

DATE MAILED: 05/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action**

Application No.

09/341,379

Applicant(s)

AISA, VALERIO

Examiner

Drew E Becker

Art Unit

1761

--Th MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 21 May 2003 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

**PERIOD FOR REPLY** [check either a) or b)]

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires \_\_\_\_\_ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection. ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. ☐ A Notice of Appeal was filed on \_\_\_\_\_. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
- (a) ☐ they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
- (b) ☐ they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
- (c) ☐ they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
- (d) ☐ they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: \_\_\_\_\_.

3. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): \_\_\_\_\_.
4. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. ☒ The a) ☐ affidavit, b) ☐ exhibit, or c) ☒ request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. ☐ The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. ☒ For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) ☐ will not be entered or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) objected to: \_\_\_\_\_.

Claim(s) rejected: 34-43.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: \_\_\_\_\_.

8. ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is a) ☐ approved or b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
9. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_.
10. ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Drew E Becker  
Examiner  
Art Unit: 1761

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Regarding the 112(2) rejection, applicant argues that "the buttons and knobs of the control panel clearly define the first set of functions. The second set of functions is then whatever else the appliance can do...". However, it is not clear whether, as applicant states "whatever else the appliance can do" would include the same functions, totally separate functions, or a mix of overlapping functions; and what these "functions" would encompass. On page 2 of the response applicant uses the example of the "first set" including 10 menus, and the "second set" being menus 11-20. It is not clear whether set 11-20 is the same set entered as 1-10. It certainly could be since they convey the same type of information. Applicant argues that Edamula does not teach a control panel with buttons or knobs. However, applicant's attention is drawn to column 2, lines 36-54 which recite a control unit with buttons, as well as a remote control which controls some of the functions performed by the control unit. Since only some of the functions are removed from the control unit, then at least the remainder of the buttons would still be located on the control unit. Applicant argues that Edamula does not teach an appliance control system in which the first set of functions is selected and controlled through use of an appliance control panel and the second set of functions is not accessible through the control panel, but through a controller. However, Edamula clearly teaches a cooking system comprising a control unit with buttons which select and provide parameter values (column 2, line 38) and a remote controller which selects and provides pre-programmed functions and parameters separate from the functions and parameters of the control unit (Figure 2, 101; column 2, lines 41-45). Therefore, claims 34-43 are still rejected on the same grounds as the Final Rejection of paper no.29.

*Drawn*  
5-18-03